# IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

In re:	)	Chapter 11
FRANCHISE GROUP, INC.,1	)	Case No. 24-12480 (LSS)
Reorganized Debtor.	) ) )	Hearing Date: February 18, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. (ET)
	) )	Objection Deadline: January 29, 2026 at 4:00 p.m. (ET)

# REORGANIZED DEBTOR'S SIXTH (6TH) OMNIBUS (SUBSTANTIVE) OBJECTION TO CLAIMS

# PARTIES RECEIVING THIS OBJECTION SHOULD LOCATE THEIR NAMES AND THEIR DISPUTED CLAIMS IDENTIFIED ON EXHIBITS A, B AND $\underline{C}$ TO THE PROPOSED ORDER

The above-captioned reorganized debtor (the "Reorganized Debtor", and together with its affiliated reorganized debtors before the effective date of the chapter 11 plan,<sup>2</sup> the "Debtors") hereby files this objection (this "Objection") to each of the claims (each, a "Disputed Claim" and, collectively, the "Disputed Claims") filed against the Debtors and their estates that are listed on Exhibits A, B, and C to the proposed form of order, attached hereto as Exhibit 2 (the "Proposed Order"), and requests the entry of the Proposed Order reclassifying and/or modifying the Disputed

The last four digits of Franchise Group, Inc.'s federal tax identification number are 1876. The mailing address for Franchise Group, Inc. is 2371 Liberty Way, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23456. The term "Reorganized Debtors" includes Franchise Group, Inc. and certain reorganized debtor affiliates, a complete list of which, including the last four digits of their federal tax identification numbers and addresses, may be obtained on the website of the Reorganized Debtors' claims and noticing agent, at <a href="https://cases.ra.kroll.com/FRG/">https://cases.ra.kroll.com/FRG/</a>. All of the motions, contested matters, and adversary proceedings that remained open as of the closing of any of the Reorganized Debtors' cases, or that are opened after the date thereof, are administered in the remaining chapter 11 case of Franchise Group, Inc., Case No. 24-12480 (LSS).

On June 6, 2025, all of the Debtors with the exception of Freedom VCM Holdings, LLC ("<u>TopCo</u>") emerged from the chapter 11 cases as Reorganized Debtors [Docket No. 1605]. TopCo emerged from the chapter 11 cases as a Reorganized Debtor on July 3, 2025 [Docket No. 1689].

Claims listed on  $\underline{\mathbf{Exhibits A}}$ ,  $\underline{\mathbf{B}}$ , and  $\underline{\mathbf{C}}$ , as indicated in further detail below. In support of this Objection, the Reorganized Debtor relies on the declaration of Daniel Kelsall, a copy of which is attached hereto as  $\underline{\mathbf{Exhibit 1}}$  (the "Kelsall Declaration"). In further support of this Objection, the Reorganized Debtor respectfully represents as follows:

## JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 1. The United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware (the "Court") has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334, the *Amended Standing Order of Reference* from the United States District Court for the District of Delaware, dated as of February 29, 2012 (the "Amended Standing Order"), and Article IX of the *Ninth Amended Joint Chapter 11 Plan of Franchise Group, Inc. and Its Debtor Affiliates* [Docket No. 1454] (the "Plan"). This matter is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2) and, pursuant to Rule 9013-1(f) of the Local Rules of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware (the "Local Rules"), the Reorganized Debtor consents to the entry of a final order by the Court in connection with this Objection to the extent that it is later determined that the Court, absent consent of the parties, cannot enter final orders or judgments in connection herewith consistent with Article III of the United States Constitution.
- 2. The statutory and legal predicates for the relief sought herein are sections 502 and 507 of title 11 of the United States Code, 11 U.S.C. §§ 101–1532 (the "Bankruptcy Code"), Rule 3007 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the "Bankruptcy Rules"), and Local Rule 3007-1.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Plan.

## **BACKGROUND**

- 3. On November 3, 2024, each of the Debtors filed a voluntary petition for relief under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code (collectively, these "Chapter 11 Cases"). Prior to the Effective Date of the Plan, the Debtors operated their businesses and managed their property as debtors in possession pursuant to sections 1107(a) and 1108 of the Bankruptcy Code. On November 5, 2024, the Court entered an order [Docket No. 88] authorizing the procedural consolidation and joint administration of these Chapter 11 Cases pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 1015(b) and Local Rule 1015-1.
- 4. On November 11, 2024, the Debtors filed a chapter 11 plan [Docket No. 150] and a related disclosure statement [Docket No. 151], which were subsequently amended [Docket Nos. 654, 655, 894, 895, 925, 926, 957, 958, 995, 996, 1015, 1233, 1312, & 1454].
- 5. On November 19, 2024, the United States Trustee for the District of Delaware appointed an official committee of unsecured creditors [Docket No. 188].
- 6. On May 7, 2025, the Court entered an order [Docket No. 1429] (the "Sale Order") approving the sale (the "Sale") of substantially all of Debtor Franchise Group Intermediate V, LLC's assets to TVS Buyer, LLC (the "Buyer"). In connection with the Sale, as set forth in the Sale Order and the asset purchase agreement attached to the Sale Order as Exhibit 1, the Buyer assumed certain liabilities. The Sale closed on May 19, 2025.
- 7. On June 2, 2025, the Court entered an order confirming the Plan [Docket No. 1596] for all Debtors except TopCo, and the Plan became effective on June 6, 2025. On July 1, 2025, the Court entered an order confirming the Plan with respect to TopCo [Docket No. 1682], and the Plan as to TopCo became effective on July 3, 2025.

8. Now that the Plan has been confirmed and become effective, the Reorganized Debtors have transitioned their focus to reconciling the proofs of claim filed in these Chapter 11 Cases to ensure prompt distributions of their assets to Holders of Allowed Claims.

#### THE DEBTORS' SCHEDULES

9. On December 24, 2024, the Debtors filed their *Schedules of Assets and Liabilities* and *Statements of Financial Affairs* [Docket Nos. 500–552, 553–558 (sealed)] (as may be amended, modified or supplemented, collectively, the "Schedules").

## PROOFS OF CLAIM AND BAR DATE ORDER

- 10. On November 6, 2024, the Court entered an order [Docket No. 113] authorizing the Debtors' retention of Kroll Restructuring Administration LLC ("Kroll") as claims and noticing agent. As such, Kroll is authorized to, among other things, receive, maintain, docket, and otherwise administer proofs of claim filed in these Chapter 11 Cases.
- Order"), establishing (i) January 23, 2025 as the last date for any creditor (as defined in section 101(10) of the Bankruptcy Code) or equity security holder (as defined in section 101(17) of the Bankruptcy Code) that asserts a claim, as defined in section 101(5) of the Bankruptcy Code, against the Debtors, including requests for allowance of payment under section 503(b)(9) of the Bankruptcy Code, to file a proof of any such claims (the "General Bar Date"), and (ii) May 2, 2025 as the last date for all governmental units holding a claim against one or more of the Debtors to file and serve a written proof of claim for payment of any such claim (the "Governmental Bar Date"). Bar Date Order ¶ 3–4.
- 12. The Bar Date Order also provides that, except as otherwise provided by another order of the Court, any person or entity that holds a claim (each, a "Rejection Damages Claim")

that arises from the rejection of an executory contract or unexpired lease must file a proof of claim based on such rejection on or before the later of (i) the General Bar Date, (ii) 11:59 p.m. (prevailing Eastern Time) on the date that is thirty (30) days following the entry of an order approving the rejection of the executory contract or unexpired lease pursuant to which the entity asserting the Rejected Damages Claim is a party, and (iii) 11:59 p.m. (prevailing Eastern Time) on the date that is thirty (30) days following the effective date of such rejection pursuant to operation of any Court order. *Id.* ¶ 5.

- 13. Additionally, pursuant to the Bar Date Order, if the Debtors amend or supplement the Schedules, then the Debtors shall give notice of any such amendment or supplement to the holders of claims affected thereby, and such holders shall be afforded the later of (i) the General Bar Date or the Governmental Bar Date, as applicable, and (ii) 11:59 p.m. (prevailing Eastern Time) on the date that is thirty (30) days from the date on which such notice is given, to file proofs of claim in respect of their claims. *Id.* ¶ 6.
- 14. Notice of the bar dates, as established by the Bar Date Order, was provided by mail and publication in accordance with the procedures outlined in the Bar Date Order. *See* Docket Nos. 717, 748 & 1120.

#### RELIEF REQUESTED

- 15. By this Objection, the Reorganized Debtor requests that the Court enter the Proposed Order, pursuant to sections 502(b) and 507 of the Bankruptcy Code, Bankruptcy Rule 3007, and Local Rule 3007-1, reclassifying and/or modifying the Disputed Claims, as indicated in further detail below and on **Exhibits A**, **B**, and **C**, as applicable, to the Proposed Order.
- 16. In accordance with Local Rule 3007-1(d)(i)(E), the Reorganized Debtor submits that this Objection complies in all material respects with Local Rule 3007-1.

#### **OBJECTION**

#### I. Reclassified Claims

- Claims") assert that all or a portion of the Reclassified Claims are secured, entitled to priority or administrative status, or fall into multiple classes. After reviewing the Debtors' books and records, the Reorganized Debtor has determined that the Reclassified Claims should be reclassified, either in whole or in part, because such claims are not entitled to secured, priority, or administrative status. Failure to reclassify the Reclassified Claims as indicated on **Exhibit A** to the Proposed Order could result in the applicable claimants receiving a higher priority in distributions than they are entitled to the detriment of creditors in these Chapter 11 Cases.
- 18. Accordingly, the Reorganized Debtor objects to the Reclassified Claims, and requests entry of the Proposed Order reclassifying the Reclassified Claims as indicated under the heading entitled "Modified Claim Amount and/or Priority" on Exhibit A to the Proposed Order.

## II. Reduced Claim

19. The Disputed Claim listed on **Exhibit B** to the Proposed Order (the "Reduced Claim") asserts an amount that is higher than the amount of liability reflected in the Debtors' books and records. After reviewing the Reduced Claim and the Debtors' books and records, the Reorganized Debtor has determined that the Reduced Claim should be modified as indicated in the column "Modified Claim Amount and/or Priority" on **Exhibit B** to the Proposed Order for the reasons stated therein. Any failure to modify the Reduced Claim as indicated on **Exhibit B** to the Proposed Order could result in the applicable claimant receiving an unwarranted recovery against the Debtors' estates, to the detriment of other creditors in these Chapter 11 Cases.

20. Accordingly, the Reorganized Debtor objects to the Reduced Claim, and requests entry of the Proposed Order modifying the Reduced Claim as indicated on **Exhibit B** to the Proposed Order.

#### III. Reduced and Reclassified Claim

- 21. The Disputed Claim listed on Exhibit C to the Proposed Order (the "Reduced and Reclassified Claim") asserts (i) an amount that is higher than the amount of liability reflected in the Debtors' books and records and (ii) that the Reduced and Reclassified Claim is entitled to priority and administrative status. After reviewing the Debtors' books and records, the Reorganized Debtors have determined that the amount and classification status of the Reduced and Reclassified Claim should be adjusted in part. Modifying the Reduced and Reclassified Claim as reflected on Exhibit C will ensure that the applicable claimant does not receive an unwarranted recovery or a higher priority distribution than they are entitled, to the detriment of other creditors in these Chapter 11 Cases, and will allow the Debtors and Kroll to adjust the claims register to accurately reflect the full sum of Claims that have been properly asserted against the Debtors' estates.
- 22. Accordingly, the Reorganized Debtor objects to the Reduced and Reclassified Claim, and requests entry of the Proposed Order modifying and reclassifying the Reduced and Reclassified Claim as indicated under the heading entitled "Modified Claim Amount and/or Priority" on Exhibit C to the Proposed Order.

#### RESPONSES TO THIS OBJECTION

23. Any responses to this Objection must be filed on or before 4:00 p.m. (ET) on January 29, 2026, in accordance with the procedures set forth in the notice of this Objection.

#### **RESERVATION OF RIGHTS**

- 24. The Reorganized Debtor reserves the right to adjourn the hearing on any Disputed Claim, and, in the event that the Reorganized Debtor does so, the Reorganized Debtor will state the same in the agenda for the hearing on that Disputed Claim, which agenda will be served on the affected claimant(s).
- 25. The Reorganized Debtor reserves any and all rights to amend, supplement, or otherwise modify this Objection, the Proposed Order, or **Exhibits A**, **B**, or **C** thereto, and to file additional objections to any and all claims filed in these Chapter 11 Cases, including, without limitation, any and all of the Disputed Claims. The Reorganized Debtors reserve any and all rights, claims, and defenses with respect to any and all of the Disputed Claims, and nothing included in or omitted from this Objection, the Proposed Order, or **Exhibits A**, **B**, or **C** thereto is intended or shall be deemed to impair, prejudice, waive, or otherwise affect any rights, claims, or defenses of the Reorganized Debtors and the estates with respect to the Disputed Claims.
- 26. Any and all rights, claims, and defenses of the Reorganized Debtors with respect to any claim on the Schedules or filed in these Chapter 11 Cases shall be reserved, and nothing included in or omitted from this Objection, the Proposed Order, or **Exhibits A**, **B**, and **C** thereto is intended or shall be deemed to be an allowance of, or impair, prejudice, waive, or otherwise affect any rights, claims, or defenses of the Reorganized Debtors with respect to, any such claims.

# **NOTICE**

27. Notice of this Objection will be provided to the following parties: (i) the Office of the United States Trustee for the District of Delaware; (ii) the Litigation Trust; (iii) the holders of the Disputed Claims; and (iv) all parties who have filed a notice of appearance and request for

service of papers pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 2002. The Reorganized Debtor submits that, in light of the nature of the relief requested, no other or further notice need be given.

# **CONCLUSION**

WHEREFORE, for the reasons set forth herein, the Reorganized Debtor respectfully requests that the Court (a) enter the Proposed Order and (b) grant such other and further relief as may be just and proper.

Dated: January 15, 2026 Wilmington, Delaware

/s/ Shella Borovinskaya

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